



St. Paul's
United Methodist Church
Journeying Together Since 1885

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 AM

JULY 27, 2025

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome you to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. All are celebrated here and all are safe. This bulletin will guide our service today. More helpful information can be found following the order of worship.

(- please stand in body or spirit)*

Gathering for Worship

Announcements

Prelude

Voluntary VI

Edward Elgar

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Before we even knock,

All: Christ opens the doors and invites us in.

Leader: Before we even ask,

All: God knows our every need,

Leader: Come to seek; come to pray; come to worship,

All: for the Spirit has called us here.

*Hymn #545

The Church's One Foundation

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

Challenging God, you send us out like lambs among wolves, then ask us to be peaceful and gentle. Help us hear and obey your call to follow Jesus, even if we must surrender our reputations and rules we hold dear. May we learn and live the path of the cross, restoring one another and bearing one another's burdens, as we discover your gift of becoming new creations in Christ. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

The Lord's Prayer

UM Hymnal #895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children's Message

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

All children are invited forward. Following the Children's Message, children will return to worship with their families in the Sanctuary for the rest of the service today.

Celebrating Dr. Meg Baker

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Proclamation of the Word

Luke 11:1-13 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

¹He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ²So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

*Hymn #549

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Sermon

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Invitation to Discipleship & Giving

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Offerings by check may be made out to St. Paul's UMC. Scan the QR code to see one-time and recurring online giving options at stpaulsk.org. Thank you for supporting St. Paul's efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory

The Lord's Prayer
Imara Miles, mezzo soprano

Max Saunders

*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Sending Forth

*Hymn #430

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
Imara Miles, mezzo soprano

Marvin Mills



Please join in fellowship in the Octagon immediately following worship for a special potluck sipping ministry time celebrating Dr. Meg Baker, Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation, upon her retirement.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today by **Martha Lipscomb**
in honor of **Dr. Meg Baker**, for her friendship,
and in thanks for the love and support she has shown to so many.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, August 3, 2025

10:30 AM –Summer Worship



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly News – Visit stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news or scan the QR code to find all the announcements, links, and event details shared in our Weekly News. For questions about announcements, please contact Erin Steele in the church office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org).



Welcome! – **Restrooms** including a family restroom with changing table can be found past the church office, near the water fountain. **Large-print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary. **Sign in!** Members, friends, and visitors alike are encouraged to use the attendance pads in the pews to share your name and note your attendance today. Please read more about worship at stpaulsk.org/worship.

Children's Programming Today – *Sunday, July 27*. All children will be in worship in the Sanctuary with their families today. Our nursery staff are off today and the nursery is closed, but families with restless friends of any age (accompanied by an adult) are welcome to make use of the Octagon room or the Library near the restrooms. Busy bags with quiet activities may be borrowed from the Welcome Desk during worship.

Summer Hours – Now through August 31, we worship for the summer at 10:30 AM only. Drop-in and phone hours for the office are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. To visit at other times, please make an appointment! Staff and clergy hours vary.

Events and Information

- **Today: Retirement Celebration** – *Sunday, July 27, 11:45 AM*. Come to the Octagon for a celebration after worship to honor Dr. Meg Baker upon her retirement. The theme is “Comfort Food,” in recognition of the many ways Meg has provided comfort and care to members of the St. Paul’s community as our Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation.
- **Today: Love Offering for Dr. Meg Baker** – As is our tradition, St. Paul’s is collecting a Love Offering for Dr. Meg Baker, Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation, upon her retirement. Those who feel led to give a financial gift to Meg may make a secure donation online at stpaulsk.org/giving or, if you prefer cash or check, please mark your contribution with “Love Offering” and place it in the Sunday offering plate, or mail it to St. Paul’s UMC, Attn: Tracey Furman, 10401 Armory Ave., Kensington MD 20895. All gifts received by August 31 will be combined and presented to Meg.
- **Next Week: Sign Up Deadline for SPY Trip** – *Sunday, August 3 (sign up); Hershey Park on August 10*. Rising-6 through rising-12 grade students – and their friends! – are invited to the SPY Summer Series! Anyone interested in the day trip to Hershey Park will need to sign up by August 3 so organizers can get tickets, t-shirts, and carpool arrangements. Please find both the special Hershey sign-up and the permission form at stpaulsk.org/community/youth. Our grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the UMC will cover snacks for the trip and the ticket cost for Hershey Park admission including rides from the carousel to the roller coasters! Participants will need to bring money for all meals in the park and any souvenirs or games; suggested amount for the day is \$50. We never want a youth to miss out on an activity for financial reasons, so please contact Pastor Joey (joeyhm@stpaulsk.org) for a confidential “campership” discussion if cost is a concern. Questions about the Hershey Park day trip should be directed to the trip’s volunteer organizer Megan Montgomery at megan.w.montgomery@gmail.com.
- **Next Month: Summer Movie Series** – We are excited to offer this series of thought-provoking films with time for discussion – and popcorn! Here is the schedule:

- **August 17 – *Elemental*.** In this Disney/Pixar film, fire element Ember and water element Wade begin an unlikely relationship that challenges their assumptions about identity, family, and obligations.
- **Date TBD – *Will and Harper*.** When comic Will Ferrell finds out his close friend of 30 years is coming out as a trans woman, the two decide to create a record of their cross-country road trip processing this new stage of life and friendship.
- **Next Month: Still Wednesday** – *Wednesday, Aug. 13, 7:00-8:00 PM*. All are welcome to come, light a candle in the Sanctuary, and engage in guided contemplative prayer.
- **Next Month: Bible & Brews** – *Sunday, Aug. 17, 5:00-6:00 PM*. Enjoy this time of interfaith conversation with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel. Monthly meetings are family-friendly and take place at a local Kensington watering hole where you may purchase food or beverages as you so choose. Summer meetings are at: BabyCat Brewery, 10241 Kensington Pkwy, Kensington MD. Contact Pastor Joey (joeyhm@stpaulsk.org) with questions.
- **Summer Break!** – Many groups modify their schedules or take a break during the summer season. Currently on Summer Break:
 - *Yarn Ministry*
 - *Joyful Ringers Bells*
 - *Taste & Sing*
 - *Pancake Breakfast*
 - *Lydia Circle Sisters*
 - *Sanctuary Choir*
 - *Children's Choir*
 - *Sermon Safari Zoom Bible Study*
- **Regular Activities** – Please contact group leaders for details!
 - **Prayerwaves** – *Wednesdays, 10:00-10:30 AM*. To pray together by phone, dial 425-436-6326 a few minutes before 10:00 AM, then enter access code 774042 followed by the # sign. To receive the prayer list by email, please contact Erin Steele in the church office at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org.
 - **Sipping Ministry** – This fellowship time with beverages and snacks is held after worship whenever a group, family, or individual wishes to host. Sign up on the office bulletin board and take a “how to” instruction sheet.
 - **Stephen Ministers** – Please contact Martha Lipscomb (301-518-1642) to be connected to a Stephen Minister for confidential care and a listening ear.
 - **Summer Crafting and Fall Craft Fair** – Long summer days are perfect for crafting at home. The Yarn Ministry will gratefully receive donations of craft items for our Craft Fair in the fall, with all proceeds going to charities.



SOURCES AND LICENSING

Livestreaming each week at 10:30 AM at stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home.

* = Streamed by permission under CCLI license #24106074. All rights reserved.

** = Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A.

Prelude: *Voluntary VI* by Edward Elgar, from *The Vesper Voluntaries*. Public domain.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*, ed. B. J. Beu and Mary Scifres (Nashville TN: Abingdon Press, 2023). Used by permission.

Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*. Words: Samuel J. Stone (1866). Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1864). Public domain.

Bible Reading: *New Revised Standard Version Bible Updated Edition (NRSVUE)*, copyright 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

* Hymn: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*. Words: 9th c. Latin, trans. Omer Westendorf, copyright 1960/1961 World Library Publications (Admin. by G.I.A. Publications, Inc.). Music: Alexander R. Reinagle (1836), harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861), public domain.

Offertory: *The Lord's Prayer* by Max Saunders, copyright 1945 by Boosey & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved.

** Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (LASST UNS ERFREUEN)*. Words: Thomas Ken (1674), adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira (1978). Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesange* (1623), harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906). Adapt. copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

Hymn: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*. Words: Washington Gladdens (1879). Music: H. Percy Smith (1874). Public domain.

Postlude: *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*, arr. Marvin Mills, copyright 1996 by Marvin Mills. Streamed by permission of the composer.



LEADING AND SERVING

Senior Pastor: Rev. Sheridan Allmond, sallmond@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor: Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Music Director: Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Organist: Mr. Marvin Mills, mmills@stpaulsk.org

Bookkeeping & Facilities: Ms. Tracey Furman, tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation: Dr. Meg Baker, mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Communications & Administration: Dr. Erin Bone Steele, stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

A/V Team: John & Biljana Regan; John Stephens

Children's Choir Director: Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader: Jan Aamodt

Guest Musician: Imara Miles, mezzo soprano



We, the community of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Kensington, welcome you in love. Jesus Christ accepts all, excluding none. So we welcome and affirm you who are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer. We welcome you without regard to your sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, culture, race, ethnicity, ability, education, or age. We welcome you no matter your immigration, marital, or economic status. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome and affirm you as one of God's children into our community of God's unbounded love. All are celebrated here and all are safe.

